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**FRANK E. HOWE, Editor and Pub.**

BENNINGTON, VT., MAY 15, 1914.

**"GOOD OLD TIMES"**

Disease usually kills in war four men to every one killed by bullets. In the Spanish war, disease killed thirteen to every one killed by Spanish arms.—Rutland News.

Reliable figures are not available, but, according to a writer in the Encyclopedia Britannica, in the wars back in the early part of the dark ages, when wars were constantly in progress, scores and probably hundreds of soldiers and camp followers perished from disease and exposure to every one actually killed or mortally wounded in battle. In addition to this awful death rate, every war meant famine and pestilence in the districts where the campaigns took place, and women and children perished in about the same proportion as the men.

There were no old men for, except among the priests or the non-combatant retainers of nobles, hardly a man lived to the age of fifty and only a few to the age of forty. The average duration of a human life in England at that period is estimated at about twenty-nine.

The total population of the British Isles at the time of Edward the Martyr, in the tenth century, is believed to have been less than two millions, though the birth rate was probably greater and had been greater for hundreds of years than it is today. Yet at the present time, the population of Great Britain has grown to some fifty millions, due to the lengthening of human life through sanitation and the prevention of infant mortality, and through the aid of medicine and antibiotic surgery.

Worshippers of good old times should study history more. Such little incidents as the death of a third of the population of London from the plague, the execution of a dozen men for the killing of one deer, burning a man at the stake because he failed to know when a noble rode past, and similar little pleasantries show how far we have come in a thousand years.

Even as late as the time of Henry V. in the fourteenth century a farmer, workman or small tradesman paid in taxes one tenth of his income to the church, one twentieth to the king, one twelfth to his immediate overlord or baron, and one twentieth in other small taxes.

These taxes took practically forty per cent of his entire income, and in time of great wars the taxes were increased. At the same time the king, dukes, archbishops, barons and other nobility, who owned four-fifths of all the property, paid no taxes whatever.

We sometimes think that times are hard and days are dark, but in all the history of the world there never was an age that approached this for the great multitude of mankind.

The announcement made by Attorney General Rufus E. Brown, that he will make a detailed statement of the money paid for detective service, should delay criticism until this statement is printed. The question of detective service is one that most of us know very little about, and The Banner for one, would like to have a comparison extending back over twenty years or so. We do not apprehend that much money was paid for detective service twenty years ago, but it is possible that a good deal of expense was incurred by their efforts and deputies, constables, state's attorneys and others in chasing criminals and suspects and that the state either directly or indirectly paid most of the bill. If this item of detective service is all or mainly a new expense it demands closer scrutiny than if it is largely a transfer. One question that is bound to arise relates to the price of service. The Wood-Morison agency of Boston is one of the most successful detective agencies in the country, and is probably one of the most high-priced. The state of Vermont could probably hire men who would call themselves detectives at two dollars per day and yet the state would be a loser by such a bargain. On the other hand, we can conceive of detective talent that would cost as much per day as a lawyer charges, which is anywhere from \$10 to \$50. This detective service expense also raises the question as to how far the people of Vermont want to go in bringing criminals to justice. It isn't solely a matter of dollars and cents.

Arthur P. Stone of St. Johnsbury is busy these days writing to Brattleboro and Windham county men trying to find some sentiment here favorable to Alexander Dunnell of the state town, as a candidate for Congress. Nothin' doin', Arthur. Let Mr. Dunnell first tell what he did to help Brattleboro and Windham county in a certain railroad question of great importance to this part of the

state when it was before the Vermont legislature for consideration and Mr. Dunnell was one of the state senators.—Brattleboro Reformer.

Hasn't the Reformer gotten Squire Dunnell mixed with another citizen of St. Johnsbury?

**Safety first.**

A slogan of the times, can be aptly applied to life insurance and nowhere more aptly than to the National Life Ins. Co. of Vt. (Mutual). Earle S. Kinsey, General Agent, Mead Building, Rutland, Vt. Adv.

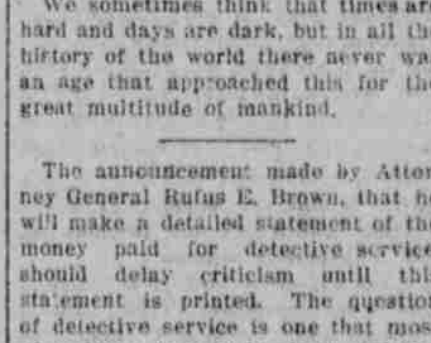
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**Because he was driving his automobile on the wrong side of the street in Montpelier, H. A. Ken of Calais had to pay a fine of \$1 and costs, amounting in all to \$4.14. Montpelier authorities are enforcing the city ordinances as regards traffic.**

One of the first actions of the Rutland county court Tuesday after a recess of several weeks was to find Mrs. Eugene McCarthy of West Rutland to be a dangerous insane person. Mrs. McCarthy has been confined at Waterbury since late last summer for the murder of her sister, Miss Alice B. Kerrigan. The county grand jury this spring failed to bring in an indictment of murder against her on the ground that she was insane.

Mrs. F. R. Kendall of Florence has in an indirect manner heard favorable news of her brother, about whose safety in Mexico she had been in doubt. The brother, Philip Steele lives in Chicago, but has been in Mexico looking after the plantation interests of the San Gabriel Plantation company. His safe arrival at Vera Cruz, in company with 10 other refugees, in the end of a series of rather exciting adventures. Mr. Steele is a Vermont man, having lived in the northern part of Rutland county for some years when younger. When the native dislike of Americans began to assume dangerous proportions Mr. Steele, stationed some miles from Vera Cruz, was about to take the most direct route to that city, but learned that it would be unsafe. By traveling up a small stream and taking his party through the tropical forest he gained the coast. In a Mexican flying boat the refugees finally arrived at Vera Cruz.

**The Governor Question**

The Republican party is "all at sea" in regard to who will be its standard bearer at the coming state election. The names of C. W. Gates of Franklin, F. E. Howe of Bennington, Guy Bailey of Essex, and F. G. Fleetwood of Morrisville are most prominently mentioned at this time. Mr. Gates and Mr. Bailey say they are not in the field. Mr. Howe is "in the hands of his friends," and Mr. Fleetwood says he is "not in politics just now." While any of these men would make a good standard bearer, there is no disguising the fact that there is a good feeling throughout the state for the son of Lamont and it may be that in him all factions, except of course the Democracy, could unite. At the present time, it looks as if the name of Mr. Fleetwood is a good one to conjure with. Think it over.—Hyde Park News and Citizen.

**State of Ohio, city of Toledo, Lucas County.**

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 4th day of December, A. D. 1913.

**A. W. GLEASON,** Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

**F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.** Sold by all Druggists, etc. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

**SEEDS!**

Our stock of Garden and Flower Seeds is larger than ever before. We have added the popular Telephone Pea to our list this year. This is a splendid pea for the market garden.

**ONION SETS**

Both Yellow and White.

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There must be genuine merit to an article that has stood the test of two generations of users. In the field of medicine none has had greater success, nor retained that success to a greater degree, than Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin, which is now being used by generations of people. Its use in families is constantly becoming more general. The reason, primarily, is that it has merit. It is what it represents itself to be a laxative-remedy; it does not make exaggerated claims nor use coarse language to set forth its virtues.

It is a medicine, but so mild and gentle a medicine that thousands of mothers give it to tiny infants, and yet, in a slightly large dose, it is equally effective for grown-ups. It is for any disorder of the stomach, liver or bowels, for constipation no matter how chronic, for dyspepsia, no matter how severe, for biliousness, sour stomach, gas on the stomach, headaches, drowsiness after eating and similar complaints arising from a clogged-up condition of the bowels. It is pleasant to the taste and does not gripe. It can be used with safety and good results by anyone at any age or in any condition of health, and that person's health will improve. Every druggist sells it, and the price is only fifty cents and one dollar a bottle.

Families wishing to try a free sample bottle can obtain it postpaid by addressing Dr. W. B. Caldwell, 419 Washington St., Monticello, Ill. A postal card with your name and address on it will do.

**INDICT COMMISSARY BURKE**

For Conspiracy in Purchasing Canal Supplies

New York, May 13.—John Burke, former manager of the commissary zone, was indicted by the federal grand jury yesterday for conspiracy to defraud and for other alleged offenses. He was dismissed some time ago. Indictments were also returned against three provision dealers at Colon, Panama. At the time of Burke's removal it was alleged that he had accepted gratuities from dealers in supplies. His case has been under investigation by the grand jury for three months.

The indictments set forth that Burke accepted a total of approximately \$10,000. There are three indictments in all against him, one of which charges that as a person acting in an official capacity for and in behalf of the United States his conduct was influenced by the payments made to him. The three men indicted with Burke are Isaac Brandon of Brandon & Bros., incorporated, a concern incorporated under the laws of New Jersey and operating in Panama; Robert Wilcox, a commission merchant and Jacob A. Salas, engaged in furnishing provisions in the canal zone.

**BIBLES**

Oxford and Nelson's Teachers Bibles, American Standard Revised Bibles 28 cents. Testament and Psalms good print, 65 cents.

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